

(1)

# THE TRYAL and CONDEMNATION OF

Several Notorious Malefactors, at a Sessions of  
OYER and TERENCE holden for  
the City of London, County of Middlesex, and  
Goal Delivery of Newgate: Beginning May  
20. 1681. Ending the 21 of the same Month.

AT THE

## Sessions House

IN THE

## OLD-BAYLY.

With the Names of those that receiv'd Sentence  
of Death, Burnt in the hand, Transported and  
to be whipt.

*And more especially the Tryal of the Maid that Killed the Apprentice, in Shoe-  
lane.*

*Together with an Account of a Parsons Wife, that Committed a Murther in the like  
manner.*

**S**tephen Cornwell was tryed upon an Indictment, for Killing one John  
Finch, near Hornsey, in the County of Middlesex: the Circum-  
stances Sworn to in Court were, That the Prisoner having  
bought a parcel of Wood of the Deceased, which he coming to fetch,  
complained of his hard Bargain, desiring that he might have some  
Over-plus, which the Deceased's Wife, denying to let him have, upon  
Words that passed between them, he struck her, the which her Hus-  
band observing, snatched a Well-hook out of her Hand, and made at  
the Prisoner, who throwing down his bundle of Wood, took out his  
Prong or Forked-stick on which he carried it, and struck the Deceased  
three Blows over the Head, the last of which broak his Skull. So  
that the Wound being given the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, he dyed on the 11<sup>th</sup>. of  
the same Instant, the Prisoner Pleaded he did not strike him, but the  
Proof being plain against him, the Jury found him Guilty of Man-  
Slaughter.

Ma-



*Mary Clark*, and *Ellenor Brown*, were tryed for Stealing 35 yards of black Silk Lace, layed in the Indictment to the value of five pounds, they coming into the Shop of one *Mr. Ridgely*, a Lace-man in *St. Edmunds Lumber-Street*, pretending to buy a parcel of Black and Gold Lace, but whilst the Prosecutor was busied in shewing them several Patterns, one of them put the aforesaid peice in her Coat, but doing it in hast, one end hung out, so that they were discovered, and the Lace found about them, one of them having been a notorious Shoplift, the Jury found them both Guilty of Felony.

*John Francis Dickason*, the Popish Priest, who pretends himself Chaplain to the *Portugal* Embassador, and was Condemn'd the last Sessions, for perverting one *Martha Cook*, from the Protestant to the Romish Religion, having obtained his Majesties Pardon, pleaded the same upon his Knees, and presented the Court with Gloves as is usual in such Cases, having only ten days allowed him to Transport himself.

*Elisabeth Messenger*, was tryed upon an Indictment of Murther for making away her Bastard Male Infant, the manner of which was, that the Prisoner being a Servant, by too much Familiarity with a Fellow that promised her Marriage, proved with Child, the which she carried so close that none perceived it, and being delivered alone, she got up betimes the next Morning and hid her Child under certain Boards, in a Cellar, but being very Ill, her Mistriss suspected her, and sending for a Midwife found she had been Delivered, the which she notwithstanding denied for a good Space: But in conclusion Confessed it and shewed them where she had disposed of it, it being taken, up a small Orifice was found in the Breast on't. So that after the Reading of the Statute of King *James*, made for the prevention of such Murthers she was found Guilty of the Murthering of the said Infant.

*Francis Smith Sen.* and one *Harris*, who were lately Committed to *Newgate* by Order of Council, made their Prayers by way of humble Petition to the Court, that they might be either Bailed or brought to their Tryals this Sessions, but against the latter, it was objected that the Kings Attorney General was not ready, by reason his Witnesses were wanting at present.

*Alice Enterys*, was tryed for Killing *Philip Avery*, Apprentice to one *Mr. Rogers* a Shoe-maker, in *Shoe lane*, which happened according to the Evidence after this manner, they being both Servants to the said *Mr. Rogers* on the 29th of *April* last, some small difference happened between about 3 of the Clock in the Afternoon of the same day, but that being pacified, about six they began to play with one another in the Shop, the Deceased who was a Youth about 15 years of Age, striking her over the Shoulders, as it was supposed in Jest, she took up a Shop-Knife and pushed at him, whereupon he desired her to lay it down, for he feared she would Cut him, to which she answered, if she had designed any such thing she could have accomplished e'r that time, she had no sooner said, but he rushing in upon her, she run it two Inches deep into the left side of his Belly, of which Wound the next day he dyed, and it was Sworn, she being asked, Why she did it? her Answer was that she



she wished it had done him worse mischief, so that although she was Acquitted of the Indictment of Murther. Yet she was found Guilty of the Man-slaughter upon the Coroners Inquisition.

*Robert Wingreen*, took his Tryal being Indicted for Stealing a silver Tankard, valued at 6 pounds from one *Edward Tranborough* in *Lime-street*, the which was Sworn against him by the Servant Maids of the House, but it appearing by the Testimony of his Neighbours that he was at home at the time they pretended the Tankard was stolen, and that he was an honest and industrious man, the Jury acquitted him.

*Francis Russel*, a Boy of about 8 years of Age, was Indicted for picking eleven Guinies, and seven shillings in silver out of a Gentlewomans Pocket near *St. Dunstons Church*, and Convicted of the same by his own Confession.

*James Stephens*, was tryed for Stealing a Scale-beam out of the Custom-house, and prosecuted by one that he had pawned it to, but the Evidence being Insufficient, he was acquitted.

*Randal Barber*, was tryed for Stealing several Deal Boards out of a Carpenters yard, in *Cock-lane* near *Shoreditch*, it being proved against him in Court, that he was taken by *Mile end-Green Watch* with three of them upon his Back (though he pleaded he found them) he was brought in Guilty.

*Elisabeth Eaton*, having an Indictment prefer'd against her for a Robbery Committed by her about 4 years since, in the House of *John Scot*, living in *St. Pauls Shadwell*, pleaded Guilty to it, Confessing that she had pawned the Goods (consisting of Plate, to the worth of six pounds) in *Ireland*, adding it was neither the Prosecutors Plate nor hers, but appertained to one *Mr. Hardigame*, living at *Chatham* as indeed it did prove to be his: So that by reason of a wrong Name in the Indictment, she was Acquitted.

*Elisabeth Jones*, and *Ann Saxby*, were Indicted for a Trespass for opening with Pick-lock Keys, the Door of one *Edward Day*, living in the Parish of *St. Michael Bassaw*, and then one of them entering to seek for booty whilst the other watched without, it being in Service Time, when the people were gone to Church; but a Neighbour coming by accidentally and mistrusting their design siezed them both with the Picklocks about them, which they alledged they found, and knew not what they were, but one of them having been Pardoned for Transportation about 2 years since, and both of them known to be Notorious, they were found Guilty.

*John Adams* being Tryed for stealing 9 Sheep, within 8 mile of *Hartford*, and selling them to a Butcher in *St Giles*, upon full Evidence was Convicted of Felony.

*John Adams*, *William Abyss*, and *Thomas Harris* were Tryed for Robbing of one *William Hawkshead* in *Hartfordshire*, The Indictment being laid only as a Felony in the County of *Middlesex*; because the Goods, which was Plate to the value of 10 pounds, was brought out of *Hartfordshire*; and taken in the Possession of those to whom they had disposed



posed of them, in the Parish of St. Giles's in the Fields : The Evidence was plain and positive, That they on the 15 of March last, broke into the House, and took the Plate, the two latter confessing the Fact; so that in conclusion they were all found Guilty.

*Margaret*, Late a Ministers Wife was Tryed upon an Indictment for Murther, committed upon the body of *Robert Edmunds*, who was her Servant, caused by excessive beating, the which she did about the 20 of December last, from which time he languished till the 15 of May, and then dyed; so that it being proved his excessive bruises occasioned his Death, she was found Guilty of Man-Slaughter.

*Edward Sing*, late Scribe to Mother *Cellier*, who was accused by Mr. *Dangerfield* for speaking seditious Words, and thereupon committed to Newgate, put in Bail.

There were eleven Condemned in all; viz. *William Abbis*, *Tho. Harris*, *John Adams*, *Thomas Hewer*, *Francis Ruslel*, *Elizabeth Messenger*, *Alice Enterys*, *Mary Clark*, *Elenor Brown*, *Elizabeth Clements*, and *Margaret Lake*, two burnt in the hand, and five to be whipt, and so ended this Session.

**FINIS.**

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